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SUBJECT: POST ARTICLE ON HEROIN FROM MEXICO
BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED1. WASHINGTON POST RAN UPI STORY OCTOBER 28 ON MEXICAN
ROLE AS SOURCE OF HEROIN IN U.S. MARKET. FOR YOUR INFOR-
MATION SIGNIFICANT POINTS FOLLOW:2. STORY MENTIONS QUOTE FEDERAL STUDY RELEASED BY SENATOR
CHARLES H. PERCY (R. ILL) UNQUOTE WHICH WE HAVE LEARNED
IS A RECENT BRIEF REPORT PREPARED FOR THE SENATOR BY DEA
AT HIS REQUEST, CONTAINING OVERVIEW AND SOME STATISTICS.
ACCORDING TO REPORT, 20 PERCENT OF SAMPLES OF CONFISCATED
HEROIN IN 13 CITIES WERE MEXICAN PROCESSED, COMPARED TO
40 PERCENT IN 1972. THIS QUOTE CONFIRMS THE VIRTUAL
SEVERING OF THE FRENCH CONNECTION UNQUOTE SINCE ONLY
TWO PERCENT ORIGINATED IN EUROPE AND NEAR EAST DURING
PERIOD COVERED BY STUDY. AMONG 13 CITIES STUDIED, NINE
HAD GREATER PERCENTAGE OF MEXICAN HEROIN THIS YEAR
THAN PREVIOUSLY, THREE HAD LESS AND CHICAGO SHOWED 100
PERCENT MEXICAN BROWN, STORY GOES ON. PERCY HAS WRITTEN
SECRETARY KISSINGER AND ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVI URGING
ACTION TO CURB TRAFFIC IN MEXICAN PROCESSED HEROIN,
ACCORDING TO STORY.3. PERCY RELEASE HAS DETAILS CONCERNING PERCENTAGES OF
MEXICAN HEROIN OF ALL HEROIN CONFISCATED IN SPECIFIC U.S.
CITIES; DESCRIBES MEXICAN BROWN AS DISTINGUISHED FROM
FLUFFY, WHITE AND PURER EUROPEAN PROCESSED VARIETY; AND
THE EASE WITH WHICH IT ENTERS ACROSS THE POROUS BORDER
CONTRASTED WITH TORTUROUS ROUTES USED IN TRANSATLANTIC
TRAFFICKING.4. ADDENDUM TO NARRATIVE PORTION OF RELEASE CONSISTS OF
HEROIN SOURCE IDENTIFICATION TABLES AND QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS, WHICH ARE ROUTINE, EXCEPT FOR FINAL ITEM
REPEATED HERE: QUOTE: WHAT IS THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

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State Dept. review completed

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DOING? THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE AND THE ARMY
REGULARLY SET FIRE TO POPPY FIELDS. THEY ALSO USE
HELICOPTERS IN SURVEILLANCE EFFORTS. BUT MORE NEEDS
TO BE DONE. THE U.S. AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENTS ARE
CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING AS TO THE USE OF CHEMICAL SPRAYS
TO DESTROY THE POPPY CROP. THE CHEMICALS, DEA SAYS,
WILL NOT HARM THE ENVIRONMENT. UNQUOTE.
BEGIN LOU

* 5. UPI ARTICLE DID NOT PICK UP DISTURBING REFERENCES TO
HERBICIDES IN ABOVE PARA. HOWEVER, REPRESENTATIVE
RANGEL GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE OCT. 29 (BEING REPORTED
WITH PRESS GUIDANCE BY SEP TEL) ON MEXICAN DRUG SITUATION
AND IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT REPORTERS WHO HAVE COPY OF
PERCY RELEASE WILL FOCUS ON THIS AT SOME POINT.
BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

6. UPI WIRE STORY RELEASED IN SPANISH OCT 30
PARALLELLING ENGLISH VERSION MAY BE USED BY MEXICO CITY
PAPERS. FURTHER, SENATOR PERCY STAFFER BEING INTERVIEWED
AFTERNOON OCT 30 BY WASHINGTON BASED EXCELSIOR REPORTER.
INGERSOLL